

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present amendments and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. Claims 8, 10, 11 and 12 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed, and thus are not narrowing. No claims are cancelled or added by this amendment.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgment that the claim for priority and corresponding priority documents have been received by the United States Patent and Trademark Office and that the references included in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on August 3, 2004 and January 1, 2004 have been considered.

CLAIM OBJECTION

Claims 8, 10, 11, and 12 were objected to as including numerical typographical errors. In response to the objection to Claims 8, 10, 11, and 12, claim 8 is amended to delete "10"; claim 10 is amended to delete "15"; claim 11 is amended to delete "20"; and claim 12 is amended to delete "25".

Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments to claims 8, 10, 11, and 12 obviate the objections stated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the April 18, 2005 Office Action and respectfully requests that the objection to claims 8, 10, 11, and 12 be withdrawn.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over claims 1-68 of U.S. Patent No. 6,856,669 in view of U.S. Patent No 4,536,790.

Applicant overcomes the raised double patenting rejection by submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321 disclaiming the terminal part of any patent granted on this application that would extend beyond the expiration of the full statutory term of U.S. Patent No. 6,856,669. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-30 of this application are now in condition for formal allowance.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1-30 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano, Reg. No. 35,094 at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By

John A. Castellano, Reg. No. 35,094

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

JAC/SAE/kpc